

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEAE-00 OMB-01 NIC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /129 W

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P R 181415Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3878

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1234

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, YE

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT: JUNE 18, 1974

REF: SANAA 1211; SANAA 1227

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

KUWAIT PASS DOHA, MUSCAT

1. SANAA RADIO ANNOUNCED AFTERNOON JUNE 18 THAT FORMER
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF COLONEL MUHAMMAD AL-IRYANI
APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO LONDON. MUHSIN AL-AYNI NOW
OFFICIALLY WITHOUT JOB.

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2. SPECULATION INCREASING THAT HAMDI WILL SOON APPOINT AL-AYNI PRIME MINISTER. IT SEEMS THAT WITH HAMDI APPARENTLY IN FIRM CONTROL AND EX-PRESIDENT IRYANI OUT OF THE PICTURE, SAG IS POSING NO STRONG OBJECTIONS TO AL-AYNI. IT MAY BE THAT WITH POSSIBLE STRUGGLE PENDING BETWEEN HAMDI AND AL-AHMAR OVER CONTROL OF PROMISED NEW CIVILIAN REGIME, HUBDI IS MOVING TO NEUTRALIZE TROUBLE-MAKING SINAN ABU LUHUM, WHO KNOWN TO INFLUENCE AL-AHMAR, BY APPOINTING SINAN'S BROTHER-IN-LAW PRIME MINISTER. SINAN AND AL-AYNI VISITED AL-AHMAR IN NORTHERN CITY OF KHAMIR JUNE 17 IN APPARENT GESTURE OF CONCILIATION.

3. NEW APPOINTMENTS OF COMMANDER OF ARTILLERY AND OF MILITARY POLICE CONSIDERED MOVE TO STRENGTHEN HAMDI, ACCORDING SAG MILITARY ATTACHE. COMMAND COUNCIL, CONTINUING PURGE, HAS ANNOUNCED NEW APPOINTMENTS TO QTE CENTRAL FORCES UNQTE (CONSTABULARY): DEPUTY COMMANDER, CHIEF OF STAFF AND CHIEF OF OPERATIONS.

4. HAMDI HAS CONTINUED FURIOUS PACE OF RECEIVING VISITORS AND TOURING MILITARY UNITS, HE HAS ANNOUNCED HE WILL ENGAGE QTE ENLIGHTENED AND YOUTHFUL UNQTE ELEMENTS IN SEARCH FOR NEW CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP.

5. REPORT OF (FORMER?) CHIEF OF STAFF COLONEL HUSAYN AL-MASWARI'S VISIT TO CAIRO AND FORTHCOMING VISIT TO JIDDA TO EXPLAIN NECESSITY OF TAKE-OVER BEING PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN PRESS. THIS SUPPORTS BELIEF HE WILL BE ADDED TO COMMAND COUNCIL ON RETURN TO SANAA. THIS WOULD BE WISE MOVE ON HAMDI'S PART SINCE IT WOULD DISPEL SUSPICION THAT A PRIME MOTIVE OF COUP WAS TO RID HIMSELF OF TWO CHIEF COMPETITORS IN ARMY LEADERSHIP, AND SINCE MASWARI IS A POPULAR COMMANDER WHO ENJOYS IN PARTICULAR THE GOOD WILL OF SAUDIS.

6. GUARD ON MILITARY HEADQUARTERS INCREASED NOTICEABLY MORNING JUNE 18 WITH ADDITIONAL TRUCK-MOUNTED MACHINEGUNS AND RECOILLESS RIFLES. SIGNIFICANCE NOT CLEAR.
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Message Attributes

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